New scheme to boost tourism

2134. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are formulating a new scheme to give boost to the tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments have also been consulted for this;

(d) if so, what is their reaction; and

(e) by when the new scheme for tourism is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OFTOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) In order to give boost to tourism, the Department of Tourism, Govt, of India has formulated the following schemes for the integrated development of infrastructure facilities and promotion of tourism in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan:

(i) Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits.

(ii) Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development.

(iii) Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects.

(iv) Capacity Building for Service Providers.

(c) and (d) These schemes have been introduced based on the past experiences of the State Governments in implementation of the tourism infrastructure projects under the Central Financial Assistance Schemes. These schemes have been formulated in consultation with the Planning Commission.

(e) These schemes have already been formulated and are under implementation.

Increase of tourists in Kerala

2135. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala had an admirable growth rate of 11.37 per cent in international tourist arrivals in 2002 which is the highest recorded growth in past five years and there has also been increase in domestic tourists as well;